



Fridley

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

YEAR IN REVIEW

FEBRUARY 2016
NO. 198

We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

6431 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
phone: 763-571-3450
www.FridleyMN.gov
e-mail: info@FridleyMN.gov

Mayor – Scott J. Lund

Councilmember-at-Large – Robert L. Barnette

Councilmember 1st Ward – James T. Saefke

Councilmember 2nd Ward – Dolores M. Varichak

Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann R. Bolkcom

City Manager – Wally Wysopal

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Focus on Fridley: A Reflection on the Past Year

Fridley has great headlines on the horizon. It is an exciting time to be a part of the action, and the star of this story is YOU! Our incredible residents and businesses make this a great community, and we are here to support you in creating a wonderful place to live, work and play.

The foundation has been laid at Springbrook for an expanded Nature Center with new exhibits, new programs and more. Columbia Arena is primed for new possibilities. The facelift to our city website encourages citizen involvement and keeps city information easily accessible.

Fridley continues to attract new businesses and development.

The result = The energy of our community is growing more vibrant every day.

In 2016, our focus is on you. We believe strong partnerships make for a strong community. We want you to be informed, included in changes and decisions, and to feel welcome to ask questions, volunteer, attend meetings and events, or join us for classes, activities and programs. We invite you to be part of the action in this new year.

Stay Connected!



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City Hall Open House Thank you for attending!

On December 28, the Fridley City Council hosted an open house regarding the future of Fridley City Hall and exploring the possibility of relocating to the former Columbia Arena site. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend, share ideas, ask questions and learn more about the future of City services.

Our website provides a complete overview of steps taken so far, your involvement, building assessments, financial impact and more. We welcome your continued feedback and encourage you to ask questions.

Sometime in late January (after this newsletter goes to press), the City Council will be continuing discussion and plans for City Hall and the Public Works buildings. Look for a replay of City Council meetings and the most up-to-date City Hall information on our website: FridleyMN.gov.



Honor Our Vets

Friday, March 18 • 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fridley Community Center, 6085 7th St NE

This educational event brings together Federal, State and County agencies to help veterans plan for the future. Get detailed information on a variety of VA benefits.

Free to veterans. Registration required.
Call Fridley Senior Center at (763) 502-5150.

Following this event, a resource fair is open to the public from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.



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Guiding Success: City Manager’s Office

2015 New Regular Full and Part-Time Employees and Paid, On-Call Firefighters

Finance Department:
Jill Brenna, Appraiser

Fridley Liquor:
Jed Thompson (Assistant Manager)
Tonya Diaz, Bonnie Laundry, Daniel Quick,
Benjamin Olsen, Jessica Pilarski,
Deborah Sjostrom and Debra Strand

Fire Department:
Rick Current, Fire Marshal
Adam Hopp, Paid, On-Call Firefighter
Katelyn Olaf, Paid, On-Call Firefighter
Kathryn Sivanich, Paid, On-Call Firefighter

Parks & Recreation:
Amy Sandquist, Administrative Assistant

Police Department:
Tyler Abrahamson, Police Officer
Jason Elasky, Police Officer
Patrick Faber, Police Officer
George Jensen, Public Safety
Data Systems Manager
Erik Johnson, Police Officer
Robert Loso, Police Officer
Peter Mueller, Police Officer
Nico Wallat, Police Officer
Enis Vatres, Community Service Officer

Public Works:
Beth Kondrick, Administrative Assistant
Jon Lennander, Assistant City Engineer
Aaron O’Connell, Water Division
Public Service Worker

Merging Talents Together: Human Resources

In 2015, we gained 13 new full-time employees, 13 part-time employees and paid, on-call firefighters, plus a large number of seasonal and temporary positions.

Our staff is here to support you, and the Human Resources Department supports staff. Fridley is fortunate to have dedicated and talented public servants guiding our City, some who contribute years of experience and others who join us with fresh ideas.

Here is a look at a few who reached milestone years in 2015:

- 35 Years:** Craig Turbak (Public Works)
- 30 years:** Sherrée Smith (Fire)
- 25 Years:** Kyle Birkholz (Finance)
Mark Foster (Public Works)
Bruce Koopmeiners (Public Works)
Brian Strand (City Manager’s Office)
- 20 Years:** Myra Harris Johnson (Police)
Ronald Julkowski (Community Development)
Brian Weierke (Police)
- 15 Years:** Debra Braaten (Police)
Scott Bradseth (Public Works)
Deborah Dahl (Human Resources)
Jennifer Fetrow (Police)
Jeffrey Guest (Police)
Tara Rogness (Parks & Recreation)
Kenneth Small (Public Works)
Stacy Stromberg (Community Development)
- 10 Years:** Brian Benesch (Finance)
Deborah Biorn (Community Development)
Zachary Chlebeck (Police)
Ryan George (Police)
Wendy Hiatt (Public Works)
Denise Johnson (Council Meetings)
Nicholas Knaeble (Police)
Christopher McClish (Police)
Randi Oman (Police)
Richard Perron (Public Works)
Krista Peterson (Council Meetings)
David Schulze (Public Works)
Andrew Todd (Police))

- In 2015, the City of Fridley lost a few wonderful retired staff members. We honor the memories of:
- MaryLu Strom Gilderhus, City Manager’s Secretary (retired 2/86)
 - Hilbert Voigt, Police Sergeant (retired 2/92)
 - John Oden, Police Officer (retired 3/78)

Guiding Success: City Manager’s Office

Fridley City Manager, Wally Wysopal, works to coordinate all 8 City departments with a single vision: To create a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses. Wally works to make Council’s priorities a reality by guiding all departments in those efforts.

In addition, the City Manager’s Office also includes areas such as official records, elections, business licensing, communications including the municipal cable channels, Council agendas/minutes, and other general government administration.

A Few Department Highlights from 2015:

- City employees were introduced to new interpreter resources to help communicate across different languages.
- We introduced a new City website designed for easier navigation and engagement.
- We launched a new electronic business newsletter as a tool for the Business Expansion and Retention Program that began in 2014.
- Cable TV production remains vital to the City: Staff produced approximately 100 videos, and the City’s YouTube channel received over 3,500 hits, plus we have the City’s online PEG channel. We also introduced a video supplement to this newsletter with a monthly “Community Connection” program. Videos are accessible online, posted on our website, shared through social media, and viewable on Cable Channel 17.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Ralph Messer (retired Fire Marshal), Connie Thompson (Senior Center Coordinator), and Siah St. Clair (retired Springbrook Nature Center Director) for being inducted into the Fridley Historical Society’s 2015 Fridley Hall of Fame!

Stay Connected!

-  Like Us on Facebook:
facebook.com/CityofFridley
-  Follow Us on Twitter:
[@CityofFridley](https://twitter.com/CityofFridley)

Protecting & Engaging: Police and Emergency Management

Training and mentoring continue as a primary focus going into 2016, as our veteran staff show our 7 new Patrol Officers the importance of community partnership and service in Fridley.

New School Resource Officers

As Officers Nick Knaeble and Zak Chlebeck accept their new promotions to Sergeant, we are excited to announce our new School Resource Officers:

Mark Mickelson starts the new year with Fridley Middle School, and Bob Stevens is assigned to the Metro Heights Academy. Officer John Kotchen will continue at Fridley High School. Congratulations!



Annual Shop with a Cop

Laughter rang through the aisles of Walmart on December 15 when Fridley Police escorted 32 kids on a holiday shopping spree!

Uniformed officers in squad cars picked kids up from Hayes, North Park, Woodcrest and Stevenson Elementary schools. Each child was given a \$75 gift card, donated by Walmart, to select gifts for family members and themselves. Children are referred by school staff (including social workers, counselors and teachers) based on financial need or if they feel someone could benefit from a positive experience with a police officer.



After their flashy entrance and a quick lunch at Subway, the kids hit the ground running! Thank you to the 24 police officers, staff, reserves and volunteers who shopped with this great group of kids, and to the school staff who helped gift wrap.

The afternoon was complete with hugs and high-fives from Santa (also known in some parts as Mayor)! A special thanks to all the kids who made this day extra special for every volunteer. Your smiles are contagious!



Citizen Academy

The Fridley Citizen Academy returned last fall with 22 participants. Residents had the opportunity for hands-on, in-depth experience with Fridley Police. Areas covered included Police K-9s, narcotics investigation, patrol procedures, use of force and a look at hot topics in the news. Yes, they got to use the Taser!

This is your Police Department – find out what we are all about. Join us next fall for this fascinating program. There is no cost, and the information you will learn is priceless. Registration and background check is required. Look for details and application information on the website this spring and in future City of Fridley newsletters.

Fridley Lieutenant Graduates from FBI National Academy

Congratulations Lieutenant Steve Monsrud and welcome back! Lieutenant Monsrud returns following a 10-week program at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. This prestigious training experience is by nomination and selection based on experience and leadership. The training Monsrud received will be extremely beneficial for the entire Fridley Police Department and better prepare him for the challenges of leading our patrol staff.



Director J. Edgar Hoover started the FBI National Academy to increase the professionalism and training of local law enforcement officers nationwide. For the past 80 years, the Academy offers a wide range of leadership and specialized training for command-level professionals, as well as the opportunity to discuss ideas, techniques, diverse solutions and experiences.

“Steve Monsrud has shown outstanding leadership skills during the course of his twenty-year police career,” says Brian Weierke, Fridley’s Director of Public Safety. “Steve is respected by his peers and is now overseeing the entire patrol unit in the New Year. As a patrol lieutenant, he will use the many skills he learned at the Academy to continue to solve the common problems our patrol officers face each and every day.”

More 2015 Police Highlights

- Fridley Officers participated in Minnesota’s Towards Zero Death (TZD) initiative. This includes DWI, distracted driving and seat belt enforcement. Officers worked tirelessly in these efforts to reduce crashes.
- The 21st year of Safety Camp was a success! Over 3,100 youth have participated since the program’s inception in 1995.
- Canine Jax and Officer Roddy successfully completed training and began working together in September.
- K-9 Kona retired in late May after 5 years of faithful service.
- The first ever Fridley High School Arrive Alive event was organized by Fridley School Resource Officers to impact young drivers on the consequences of distracted and impaired driving.

New Initiatives

Cops in the Café

Beginning this January, Fridley Police is starting a new program with elementary students. Twice per month, a member of the Fridley Police Department will join a select group of students for school lunch. A group of 4-5 students will be selected by the school each time for various reasons. Perhaps they do not have a parent available for a lunch time visit, or maybe they need a positive influence to help guide behavior. The program will start at Hayes Elementary and later broaden to include the other three Fridley elementary schools.

Senior Safety Seminars

Once a month, January through May, Fridley Police will be hosting senior safety seminars. These seminars will cover a variety of topics including:

- Scams that specifically target seniors including the famous “grandchild” scam,
- How 9-1-1 works specific to Anoka County,
- A behind-the-scenes look at Fridley Police,
- Meet Fridley’s Pawn Detective and learn about an easy property recovery program that may help if you are ever the victim of theft, and
- Learn what it means to be an undercover officer and what the world of narcotics and violent crime look like.

You will not want to miss these valuable and fascinating seminars.

Senior Safety Seminars will take place at the Fridley Community Center on the 2nd Monday each month, January through May, from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. To learn more, call the Fridley Senior Center at (763) 502-5150.

NextDoor.com

Fridley Police joined NextDoor.com in 2014 as a way of keeping neighborhoods informed about crime alerts, public safety topics and other important information. Our online community continues to grow and we invite you to visit NextDoor.com. Join your online neighborhood watch group and stay involved in keeping our community safe.



Fridley Safety Camp 2015



Arrive Alive simulation at Fridley High School



Fridley’s new rescue boat provides the horsepower and equipment necessary to quickly and safely rescue water victims.

Rescue and Educate: Fire Suppression and Prevention

Top 10 Notable Events for 2015

- #10: As a part of a continued commitment to fire safety, Rick Current joins Fridley Fire as our full-time Fire Marshal.
- #9: A new county-wide records system is implemented.
- #8: We installed a new “Heart Safe” station alerting system.
- #7: Fridley Fire is the recipient of the CenterPoint Energy Community Partner Grant. The \$1,300 award helped improve water-related rescues with the purchase of new rescue vests and cold water suits.
- #6: A new Boat and Spill Trailer is purchased as part of the Natural Resource Protection Initiative.
- #5: Fridley Flames set a record serving spaghetti to over 400 people, and waffles to over 525.
- #4: All firefighters successfully tested and passed the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians’ psychomotor skills.
- #3: 16 fire departments formed the Anoka County Fire Protection Council under a joint powers agreement.
- #2: Daily vehicle and equipment inspections are now electronic through Target Solutions.
- #1: Firefighters now carry Narcan to reverse the effects of opioids like Heroin.



Free Car Seat Clinic: March 8

By appointment only.

Fridley Police invite you to have your car seat inspected or installed by certified technicians.

Tuesday, March 8 at Friendly Chevrolet
Reservations required.
Appointment times available between 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Call Liz with Fridley Police at (763) 572-3626

Fridley has 3 fire stations, including Station 1 which is staffed 24 hours/day. As an all-hazards department, Fridley Fire responds to a variety of calls, including medical emergencies, hazardous material spills, house fires, river rescues and more.

Protecting Firefighters Against Exposure to Cancer-Causing Elements

In 2015, Fridley Fire, with the help of the Fridley Flames, launched an initiative to further protect our firefighters against the dangers of cancerous carcinogens from contaminated fire products.



Fridley Flames purchased 40 protective hoods as a fabulous first step in this initiative. These additional hoods will allow equipment to be cleaned more frequently, diminishing the breathing in of particles trapped in a hood after exposure.

Fun Fire Fact

The fire station tradition of Black over Red was started years ago when the Chicago Fire Department bought red Ford Model T chief cars and the soft top only came in black.

We are pleased to continue this tradition at Fridley Fire.

Congratulations!

Firefighter of the Year: Dean Knowles
Chief’s Award: Kim Herrmann

Fridley Firefighter Awards were presented on May 16, 2015, for exceptional contributions in 2014.

Hoverboard/Swagway Safety

Did someone in your family get a hoverboard over the holidays? This self-balancing scooter has quickly become the latest fad; however, many hoverboards have been linked to fires. Fridley Fire urges you to be careful when choosing and using these devices.

Signs of Trouble:

- Leaking fluids
- Excessive heat
- Odor
- Sparking
- Smoke



If you notice any of these signs, stop using the device right away and call 9-1-1.

Safety Tips

- Look for the seal of an independent testing laboratory.
- Read and follow all manufacturer directions.
- An adult should be responsible for charging the hoverboard.
- Do not leave a charging hoverboard unattended.
- Never leave the hoverboard plugged in overnight.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the hoverboard.
- Stop using your hoverboard if it overheats.
- Extreme hot or cold temperatures can hurt the battery.
- Keep an eye out for updates from manufacturers and safety groups.

Fridley Fire by the Numbers

40 number of public education visits and tours: (resulting in over 1,200 people learning about fire safety)

Monthly average number of calls: **250**

Wednesday

has been the busiest day of the week for calls, with the busiest time from Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Total number of calls in 2015: **3,150**
(103 of these were for fires)

Structure Fires: **19**
Cooking-related Fires: **41**
(8 of these a result of falling asleep while cooking)

Other Fires (vehicles, trash, grass, etc.): **43**

2,235 calls for medical/rescue

Building Tomorrow: Community Development

GreenStep City Accomplishments

- Outstanding Conservation Award from the Anoka Conservation District
- Blue Star City Award from a state agency partnership
- Obtaining a GreenCorps employee to write an urban forestry plan for the City and organize Arbor Day events for 2015.
- Obtaining SCORE funding from Anoka County to hire a recycling intern who studied and helped implement plans to improve apartment recycling.
- Fridley was selected for a Fall 2015 University of Minnesota Environmental Problem Solving class project and a Spring 2016 University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute capstone class project for transportation planning.
- Our first National Trail Day event was held at Islands of Peace Park.



Residents turn out for Fridley's first National Trail Day event.



Columbia Arena comes down, making way for future possibilities.

2015 Highlights

- Inspected 7,763 residential properties in 22 weeks and resolved 1,903 violations.
- Public engagement reached new heights with over 800 hours of public input from citizens who met to advise the City on the future of the Columbia Arena site.
- New development in the City includes a future hotel and additional retail coming to Fridley Market, and Starbucks, AT&T and Leeann Chin opening at 5300 Central.
- Northern Stacks is two years ahead of schedule, thanks to millions of dollars in grant funds from DEED and the Metropolitan Council.
- Completed over 8,500 rental inspections including garages for the first time. Rental applications and fees totaled \$187,195.
- Issued a total of 5,119 building permits, adding \$57,064,000 in new value to the City.
- City Code updating included fences, signs, zoning and floodplain. Staff also made updates to the Northstar TOD Zoning District.
- Successful demolition of the unsafe Columbia Arena building.

Congratulations Kay Qualley!

Kay recently passed the American Institute of Certified Planners' exam and has been granted the AICP designation. This is one of the highest levels of commitment and education available for a career in planning, and speaks to the well-rounded level of expert knowledge Kay brings to the City.



Jacquel Nissen and Jenna Knutson

Congratulations

Fridley Intern Jacquel Nissen was awarded 2nd place in a prestigious student real estate competition last November. Jacquel is majoring in Real Estate and Business Finance at the University of St. Thomas, and is currently working with the Fridley HRA on our Business Retention and Expansion Program.

"Jacquel has great business sense and a communication style that relates well with our Fridley business owners," says Paul Bolin, Assistant Executive Director of the Fridley HRA.

Jacquel, in partnership with fellow student Jenna Knutson, developed a concept that uses an innovative form of funding to help businesses with their gap financing needs. In addition to their second place win, they were named "Best Presentation," for a total award of \$4,750 in scholarship funds.

Minnesota Caucuses to be Held

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 • 7:00 p.m.

A precinct caucus is a closed meeting of a group of people residing within a specific precinct and belonging to the same political party. The business of a precinct caucus is to sometimes take straw polls, select representatives, and decide policy or party platforms for the upcoming 2016 election. The City of Fridley is in the 5th Congressional District, Minnesota Senate District 41 and Minnesota House District 41A.

To find out where your local caucus is being held, call the City at 763-572-3523 or visit the Secretary of State's website at caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us/. Locations should be determined by February 1.

Spring Break Youth Trips

Grades K-5: School's Out Events

All events leave and return to the Fridley Community Center from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Extended hours available for \$8 additional: 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Registration is required and space is limited. Sign up online at www.FridleyMN.gov or 763-572-3570

- Monday, March 21:** Bounce around at Pump It Up and bowl a strike at Mermaid Lanes, \$28
- Tuesday, March 22:** Escape to the tropics at a Fridley MS pool party, \$20
- Wednesday, March 23:** Reach new heights at Air Maxx Trampoline Park, \$28
- Thursday, March 24:** Explore at the MN Science Museum and Omnitheater, \$28
- Friday, March 25:** Make a splash at MN Wild Woods Waterpark, \$28



What: Free Tax Preparation and Advice
For Who: Low to Middle Income Seniors
When: Wednesdays, February 3 – April 13
9:00 a.m. – Noon and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Where: Fridley Community Center: 6085 7th St NE

First come, first served. More complicated tax returns may be referred to paid preparers including farm taxes, business taxes and complicated investment taxes. Bring copies of your 2014 tax forms and your 2015 tax information including W-2s, 1099s, medical expenses, records of contributions, CRP from landlord or Statement of Property Tax.

Sustaining Our City: Finance

Love is in the air
at Fridley Liquor!



Red Wine, Sparkling
Champagne,
the perfect Cognac...
*Let Fred Lee,
a.k.a. Mr. Romance
help you set the mood!*

Be the first to know about
Fridley Liquor events, specials
and tastings! Sign up online at
FridleyLiquor.com.

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-  Twitter: @FridleyLiquor

Fridley Liquor
now offers Gift
Cards! Think of us
next time you need
the perfect gift!
Available at both
locations: Hwy 65 or
University Avenue



Fridley Community Calendar

February

- 1 Charter Commission
- 1 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 3 Appeals Commission – cancelled
- 4 HRA Meeting
- 8 City Council Meeting
- 9 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 15 City Offices Closed in Observance of Presidents’ Day
- 17 Planning Commission – cancelled
- 22 City Council Meeting

March

- 2 Appeals Commission
- 3 HRA Meeting
- 7 Charter Commission
- 7 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 8 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 14 City Council Meeting
- 16 Planning Commission
- 22 City Council Meeting

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Municipal Center, 6431 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at (763) 572-3500 at least one week in advance.

Highlights

- The Assessing Division completed the reappraisal of 625 exempt parcels to comply with state statutes that require 6 year reviews. Staff also completed the quintile review of 1,820 parcels along with 640 permit inspections for new construction and repairs.
- The value of residential, commercial and industrial properties are all on the rise.

Residential = 4-5% increase
Commercial/Industrial = nearly double that of residential properties

- IT designed and improved a more secure online meter reading entry screen that saves staff time through automation, and better protects private information. It is also easier to use.
Try it! Go to FridleyMN.gov and click the Utility Billing button under the slideshow.

- Upgraded the Point of Sale system at Fridley Liquor stores to conform to new credit card regulations. The previous system performed over 4 million transactions during its 16 years.
- Implemented a new integrated Enterprise Resource Planning system to replace an outdated 30-year old financial, payroll and utility billing system. This system provides more security, efficiency and the ability to evolve with changing needs and technologies.
- The efforts to rebrand the City’s municipal liquor stores are paying off. Liquor store sales for 2015 increased by 10% over the prior year. Sales surpassed \$5.25 million in 2015!

The **2016 City Budget** was adopted by Council on 12/28/2015 and is available for viewing online at www.FridleyMN.gov/budget.

City Council Approves 2016 Budget and Levy

What is a levy?

First things first, what is a levy? In the simplest terms, a levy is a tax. For our purposes, it is a local government tax collected through property tax payments. This tax is used for a variety of essential city services like police, fire, parks and streets.

What can homeowners expect?

The average homeowner will see an approximate property tax increase of about 2%. This equals around \$15 for a home with an estimated market value of \$176,000.

How is the levy used?

The additional levy collected is split into 2 main uses. The increase of 1.4% (which is this year’s cost of inflation and the City’s Charter limit) will be used to fund essential city services including staffing and capital improvements. The additional 2.57% is used to prepay debt that was originally issued in 2007 and 2008 to pay for necessary street improvements. This type of use is not subject to the Charter limit. Prepaying this debt will save the city almost \$40,000 over the next 2 years.

What do the numbers mean?

In 2016, the total levy collected from all sources will increase by 3.9%, or about \$466,000, providing approximately \$12.2 million for city services. As a homeowner, your property tax portion of this percentage is different from the total percentage collected. The levy is collected from all types of property within the City, based on taxable market value. As you have likely experienced over the last several years, property values ebb and flow. Residential property values change differently from commercial and industrial. For example, home valuations remained virtually flat from January 1, 2014, to January 1, 2015. January 1, 2015, is the valuation year for taxes payable in 2016. On the other hand, commercial and industrial properties increased about a 7–8% rate during this same time frame. Because the value of these types of properties has recently increased more than residential properties, they will see a proportionate shift in property taxes.

The City’s Budget, Capital Improvements Plan and Certified Annual Financial Report can all be found on the City’s website: FridleyMN.gov/233/City-Budget.

2016 Tax Levy

\$176,000 Assessed Market Value for Taxes Payable in 2016





New boardwalk at Springbrook includes a 900’ floating section

A City that Serves You: Public Works

Public Works by the Numbers

- Over 1,400 field work orders completed.
- Only 4 plowings in 2015 after a season with 22!
- 1 sewer main backup.
- 800 athletic field preparations.
- 415 automated meter reader (AMR) appointments and installations.
- 55 televising of sanitary sewer systems.

2015 Highlights

- Over ¼ mile of new boardwalk installed at Springbrook Nature Center, including a 900’ section of floating boardwalk.
- Construction of a holding pond at Creek Ridge Park for flood mitigation.
- An expedited 2015 street project, including extensive utility repairs, bid \$275,000 below budget.
- Over 1,500 fleet work orders completed from flat tires and services to crash repairs and engine overhauls.
- Enhanced corridor maintenance efforts to include Highway 65 mowing and bus stop trash collection.
- Four of the City’s 13 wells were updated. Four others received power supply rebuilds.
- Secured Mississippi Watershed Management Organization funding of \$862,000 for the 2015 and 2016 street projects for construction of water quality improvements.
- Waterproofing of City Hall east entrance and replacing lighting.

- Completion of new Police impound building site improvements including coordination of construction, paving, utility work, and door adjustments.
- Awarded \$486,000 in federal funding for 2018 construction of a multi-use trail along the west side of Moore Lake.

Fridley’s Water Quality

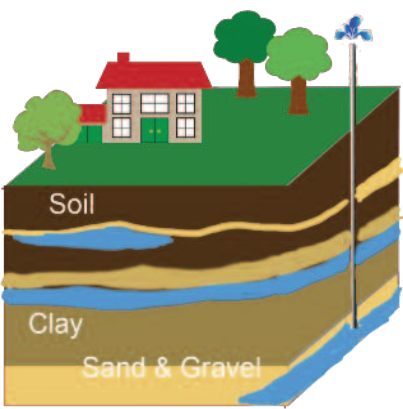
In 2015, we provided 1.154 billion gallons of safe, clean, quality water to Fridley customers. The Fridley Drinking Water Quality Report and yearly information comes out each June: FridleyMN.gov/waterquality.

Fridley wells pull water from the earth, up to 870 feet deep. This water is contained in layers of porous rock, sand and gravel. Fridley maintains the operation of 13 wells, the TCAAP line, 4 reservoirs and 3 filter plants.

Well Sealing Grants Available

Do you have an unused well on your property? Financial assistance is available to help residents with well sealing. The grant provides 50% reimbursement of eligible costs up to a total of \$750 for contracted well sealing work. Hurry, work needs to be completed by April of this year.

Interested? Applications are available online at FridleyMN.gov/wellgrant or call Beth at (763) 572-3554.



Artesian Well




Winter Reminder Fridley does not declare snow emergencies. Winter parking restrictions are in place November 1 through April 1 regardless of weather.

Reminder: There is no street parking in Fridley between 2:00 - 6:00 a.m.


There is also no street parking anytime plows are out.

Plow Safety

- Do not let children play or build snow structures near the street.
- Reduce your speed around plows and keep your distance.
- Keep garbage and recycling cans out of streets and sidewalks, as well as any toys and sleds.



FRIDLEY COMMUNITY THEATRE



Pablo Picasso

AT THE LAPIN AGILE

by STEVE MARTIN

6pm Dinner Show: Tickets \$25
Feb 13, 18, 19 & 20

3pm Show Only: Tickets \$15 • Feb 14 and 21

Tickets available online at
www.FridleyCommunityTheatre.org
Or by phone at (763) 502-5100



Designing Fun in Friendly Fridley: Parks & Recreation

Senior Center

- Honor Choices: A new program in partnership with Allina Health launched in 2015 to help seniors with their health care directives.
- The Senior Program partnered with the Green Book Fair for 2 book recycling events in 2015. Over 2,000 books were exchanged through these events.
- 325 seniors attended the 40th anniversary of the Senior Program Holiday Lunch.



Recreation

- ZONE attendance increased by over 1,000 in 2015! As of late November, we counted 5,888 participants.



- Winterfest 2015 was a huge success with over 900 guests.
- Fridley ‘49er Days took over Commons Park last June with new activities in a park setting. Stay tuned for dates and details for 2016!



- Summer ROCKS 2015 = 1,694 enrollments in over 150 arts, sports and enrichment classes.
- 134 adult sports teams participated in softball, football, basketball, volleyball and broomball leagues.



Trusses going up as the Springbrook Nature Center building prepares for a roof.

Springbrook

On October 7, 2015, a groundbreaking ceremony was held to kick off construction of a new and remodeled 13,000 square foot interpretive building at Springbrook Nature Center. Construction is underway, and the new building should be ready for use this summer!

In partnership with Split Rock Studios, City staff and volunteers created an exciting design for all the new exhibits to be part of the new Springbrook building.

Time to Reserve your Garden Plot!

Location: Locke Park

Rental Cost:

Fridley resident: \$28/plot

Fridley senior (55+): \$22/plot

Non-resident: \$45/plot

Limit 2 plots per gardener.

Reservation Schedule:

Returning Fridley Gardeners: Now through March 14 (same plot)

Fridley Residents (new plots): Beginning March 17

Returning Non-Resident Gardeners: Beginning March 25 (same plot)

Non-Resident (new plots): Beginning March 31

Questions? Give us a call at (763) 572-3570



2016 Adult Softball Leagues

Registration begins February 2.

Co-Rec: \$625

Men’s Leagues: \$710 Sunday Leagues
or \$780 for Weekday Leagues

2016 Adult Co-Rec Kickball Leagues

Registration begins March 28.

Games are played on Sunday evenings
beginning May 8.

Games played at Community Park in
Fridley and Aquatore Park in Blaine.
\$215/team

For details and registration information,
visit www.FridleyMN.gov
or call (763) 572-3570